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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/761,375

01/22/2004

Matthew J. Cannon

RIC-98-050C1

3103

25537

7590

07/20/2006

EXAMINER

JAIN, RAJ K

VERIZON

PATENT MANAGEMENT GROUP

1515 N. COURTHOUSE ROAD

SUITE 500

ARLINGTON, VA 22201-2909

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 07/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/761,375	Applicant(s) CANNON ET AL.	
	Examiner Raj K. Jain	Art Unit 2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 25-27, 29-32, 34-36, 38-40 and 42-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-27, 29-32, 34-36, 38-40 and 42-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 25-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shanker et al (US006570869B1) in view of Purcell et al (US 6094578).

Regarding claims 25, 30, 35, 39, 43 and 44 Shanker discloses a method and means for establishing a telephone call (see abstract, Figs 1 & 4), comprising:

- receiving a call establishment request (see Figs 1 & 4, col 13 lines 12-33, a call request and establishment message 402 is created and sent to node 100 and then to coding unit 110 for establishing a call request.);

- converting first message format to a session initiation protocol format **or** from the session initiation format to the first format (NOTE: based on "or" within the limitation the limitation is interpreted broadly to require to meet only one of the recitations and not necessarily both. Thus with this in mind see Fig. 1, The originating signaling unit 120 and the terminating signaling unit 140 implement a "virtual switch" and are responsible for processing and routing the signaling messages that are exchanged to set up and tear down a voice connection, furthermore, the signaling units also convert the legacy protocols of the originating node 100 and the terminating node 160, such as DPNSS, ISDN_PRI, SS7/C7 (including ISUPs, TUPs, and NUPs), H.323, **SIP**, or CAS,

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into messages for communicating with one another and for controlling a coding unit over control links 114 and 154, see col 1 lines 30-37, col 2 lines 44-67, col 5 lines 15-32.)

Shanker however fails to disclose mapping of nature of address (NOA) indicator and/or a numbering plan indicator (NPI) for establishing of the call.

Purcell discloses a gateway unit which acts to provide interoperability between disparate mobile communications networks such as for example between US and European networks. The gateway unit processes the translation of a subscriber's global title address from the type of global title addressing used by a first communications network into the type required by the second communications network (see col 3 lines 5-14, col 4 lines 50-57, the protocol conversions are performed based on look-up tables or conversion tables (see abstract, Fig. 6a-6c). The conversion tables translate messages from one format to another format and vice versa, furthermore, one skilled in the art will appreciate conversion tables allow a processor to "equate" and translate the components of one field of address to another field of equal address.

Figs. 6a-6c show examples of mapping tables used in the translation process between ANSI and ITU formats (see col 7 line 37 – col 8 line 37). Nature of address entry indicates the type of dialed number, for example, national versus international. The Nature of address entry allows the call process to route a call based on the Nature of address value provided. Numbering Plan indicator contains information identifying the switch from which trunk the group is originating or to which trunk the group is terminating. Telecommunications switches typically operate in known environments

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with fixed dial plans and the expected digit patterns are pre-defined. By knowing what the digit patterns will be, the telecommunications switch uses an inflexible hard coded program to identify the received digit patterns. The hard coded telecommunications switches are specifically defined for a particular country and would not operate in other countries, as each numbering plan is different and therefore requiring appropriate conversion protocols for a smooth interconnect between different interfaces.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate both an NOA and NPI within Shanker so as to allow for continuous and smooth interconnect of communications path between different network interfaces.

Regarding claims 26, 31, 36, 40 Shanker discloses converting first message format to a session initiation protocol format **or** from the session initiation format to the first format (NOTE: based on "or" within the limitation the limitation is interpreted broadly to require to meet only one of the recitations and not necessarily both. Thus with this in mind see Fig. 1, The originating signaling unit 120 and the terminating signaling unit 140 implement a "virtual switch" and are responsible for processing and routing the signaling messages that are exchanged to set up and tear down a voice connection, furthermore, the signaling units also convert the legacy protocols of the originating node 100 and the terminating node 160, such as DPNSS, ISDN_PRI, SS7/C7 (including ISUPs, TUPs, and NUPs), H.323, **SIP**, or CAS, into messages for communicating with one another and for controlling a coding unit over control links 114 and 154, see col 1 lines 30-37, col 2 lines 44-67, col 5 lines 15-32.)

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switches are specifically defined for a particular country and would not operate in other countries, as each numbering plan is different and therefore requiring appropriate conversion protocols for a smooth interconnect between different interfaces.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate both an NOA and NPI within Shanker so as to allow for continuous and smooth interconnect of communications path between different network interfaces.

Regarding claim 27, Purcell discloses a numbering plan for establishing of phone calls (see Figs 6a-6c, col 7 line 65 – col 8 line 35), reasons for combining same as for claim 25 above.

Regarding claim 32, Purcell discloses mapping of the address indicator for establishing of phone calls (see Figs 6a-6c, col 7 line 65 – col 8 line 35), reasons for combining same as for claim 30 above.

Regarding claim 29, 34, 38, 42 and 46 Shanker discloses network signaling protocols such as SIP, and telephony signaling protocol such as SS7, ISDN ISUP and CAS protocols (see col 1 lines 25-37, col 4 line 50 – col 5 line 27).

Regarding claim 45, Shanker discloses various telephony signaling protocols (see col 4 line 66 – col 5 line 32.).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 25-27, 29-32, 34-36, 38-40, 42-46 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

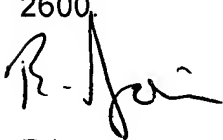
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raj Jain whose telephone number is 571-272-3145.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for regular communications and (571) 273-8300 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-

2600.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Jain', is written over the printed name 'RJ'.

RJ
July 19, 2006